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THE DIXIE RANGER

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE-SOUTHERN REGION

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◊◊ Merry Christmas ◊◊

Christmas and the New Year will soon be with us. Its the stocktaking and planning time and I hope that we will all take stock of ourselves - of our personal as well as our official life - with a look ahead to 1942.

Personally some of us may have been visited by sadness or disappointments during 1941, but collectively we must all rejoice that we live in the United States, even though we are now at war. With people in Europe at each others throats, with wholesale slaughter, not only of soldiers but of civilians as well, going on over much of the face of the earth, we are fortunate that we live under the most favorable conditions and in the greatest democracy in the world. Yet we cannot and must not sit idly by merely as spectators in a theater. We are in reality a part of and in the midst of this unrest, strife and slaughter.

One cannot look forward to 1942 as a year of ease, security and tranquility. But in spite of the strife and hardships ahead, there are opportunities for greater and more satisfactory things. Hard work and sacrifices will be required, yet there is that chance for rendering more important service than ever before - service in defense of our country, which if conscientiously and fully given will ultimately mean better times for us, and for those who follow us.

Many of us will have to revise our ways of living and our budgets, but this also is in the great cause of our future security and happiness.

Officially the Forest Service is already doing a great deal of defense work and much more will be expected in 1942. Many of us may think these extra activities are centered in a few, yet each of us is a cog in the wheel and each of us must accept his or her share in the defense of our country as an activity to those which we ordinarily think of as our job.

And so I bring you my Christmas greetings and my best wishes for the New Year with its wonderful possibilities for service. Let us then resolve to fill to the full extent our place in that great effort which our country is now making to lead a mad, baffled, discouraged world out of its difficulties to a better place in which to live.

- - Joseph C. Kircher
Regional Forester

THE CHOCTAWHATCHEE CARRIES ON

A great many people in the Region have at some time worked on, or visited the area that was formerly the Choctawhatchee National Forest, now Eglin Field Military Reservation. Any person who has worked here is bound to have absorbed some of the spirit of the Choctawhatchee and will be interested in recent developments.

When the Choctawhatchee was transferred to the War Department a year ago, a good many Forest Service employees, who had watched its development, wondered what the future would hold for this area. The original Eglin Field has been greatly enlarged and a permanent post has been established, which is the headquarters for the Air Corps Proving Ground and Fixed Gunnery School. In addition, seven auxiliary Flying Fields are under construction, some of which are ready for use. Four gunnery ranges and two bombing areas are constantly in use. Cadets from the advanced flying schools throughout the southeast are sent here for training in gunnery.

The question naturally arises as to whether or not the Choctawhatchee is upholding the Forest Service traditions. We think facts and figures can best answer this. Timber sales have been stopped, but merchantable timber which is cut on rights-of-way, auxiliary fields and target areas is being salvaged. This is manufactured into lumber in the Army's electric mill and is utilized in hundreds of ways for Army construction. Records are being maintained of the timber cut so the timber management plan can be revised.

The acquisition program is almost completed and the recently acquired acreage brings the total Government land to almost 450,000 acres with about 500,000 acres under fire protection.

The Forest Service fire guards were retained by the Army and during the past year, the organization has carried on with typical Forest Service efficiency. With the cooperation of the Post Commander and with the assistance of CCC Camp AF-1, the fire record for the year ending

October 1, is as follows: Total acreage of Government land burned is 266 acres or .05% of Government land; total number of fires on Government land, 33; total number of fires by classes: (A) - 19, (B)-11, (C)-2, (D)-1; total number of fires by causes: Lightning 29, smokers, 3, miscellaneous 1. Only 10% of the fires were man caused.

Prompt action by the whole organization has made this record possible. We now have very good equipment and hope to have an equally good record next year.

Aside from efficiency on routine jobs, a number of interesting incidents have shown that the boys are "on their toes".

Lookouts on two occasions saw airplanes make forced landings and in both cases their reports were the first to reach Post Headquarters. Fire guards led rescue parties to the scenes, and, although neither flier was hurt, immediate action on the part of the fire guard organization might have saved loss of life had the accidents been more serious.

Two buildings burning on private property in the community were reported by the lookouts. One, a large store, was saved by the fact that the use of Forest fire trucks enabled the guards to hold the blaze in check until the fire truck from the Post arrived. In another case, one of a group of frame houses was burning too fast to be put out, but three adjacent houses were saved.

One smoke crossed out in the middle of Weekly Bayou where a U. S. Engineer's tug boat had just fired up. Another was found to be right on the highway and when the crew arrived they found a burning automobile. This proves our maps and fire finders are accurate, and that the lookouts are on the job.

There is a saying that once a person has gotten sand from the Bay Country in his shoes he will always come back. We hope you will, because even though there have been great changes in this area in the past year, in many ways it is the same old Choctawhatchee. It continues activity in another guise, but still contributes its part in the vital role of national defense.

- - C. A. Rowland, Jr.,
Captain, Air Corps,
Forest Officer (Formerly
Management Asst. on Chattahoochee.

Thank you, Forester-Captain Rowland. This very satisfactory report answers questions I have heard from a number of people and is much appreciated.

- - J. F. Brooks,
Regional Office.

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Defense bonds and stamps make wonderful Christmas presents.

RANGERS NEEDED CLERKS YEARS AGO.

The following is quoted from a memorandum written many years ago by a District Ranger and addressed to his Supervisor:

"I have a timber sale or two which may be made and I will probably need some help on them, since when I get in the field too long I get behind in the office and most all time behind with both ends."

- - - H. P. Nichols,
Pisgah

FOR DEFENSE

The little note at the bottom of page 5 of the November issue of the Dixie Ranger, reminding us to purchase defense stamps and bonds prompts this report.

In response to the recent campaign, the Ozark personnel have to date purchased \$2074.60 in stamps and bonds, one man even going below the "knot in the sock". This "knot in the sock" may need a little explaining. You see, he kept his money in a sock and in this sock was tied a knot. All the funds above the knot were for current expenses, all below the knot being held in reserve as a nest egg for a rainy day. It had been some time since this knot was last untied, but like the loyal patriot that he is, he has now untied the knot and has purchased defense bonds to the tune of \$1000.00! To all others being so fortunate as to have socks with knots, this should be a good example.

All fun aside, we think our total to date figure is O. K. Lacking means of comparison, we don't know whether it is anything to crow about or not. It may not be. However, we do know that in spite of increasing living costs we are doing our bit to aid our Government in the defense of our country.

- - D. W. Nichols,
Ozark

(Editor's note: Good Going! and thanks for the report, Mr. Nichols. We think the Ozark figure reported is O. K., too, and so is your story of the "knot in the sock". Perhaps it will remind other offices to "keep 'em untying".)

HAMMERLE APPOINTED STATE FORESTER OF S. CAROLINA

Notice has been received of the resignation of Mr. H. A. Smith, as State Forester of South Carolina to become associated with the T. V. A. Mr. W. C. Hammerle has succeeded Mr. Smith as State Forester.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Of late there has been considerable activity on the part of both Insular and Federal Governmental agencies in Puerto Rico in connection with exchange of ideas with representatives of neighboring Caribbean Islands including British West Indies, Cuba, Haiti, Santo Domingo and others. The Governor invited agriculturists and foresters representing these Islands to visit Puerto Rico during the week of October 26, which they did, there being four representatives from Jamaica, one from Cuba, two from Haiti, three from Trinidad and others.

Bevan and I spent most of the week of October 26 attending the meetings and field trips arranged for the visitors. I had the opportunity to entertain the group both on the Luquillo and Maricao Units and showed them forestry and forest homestead work under way on those Units. I also had an opportunity to spend considerable time with the British Conservator of Forests from Trinidad and obtained many valuable ideas from him, based on his long experience in British West Indies.

- - E. W. Hadley,
Caribbean

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THE LIFE OF AN EDITOR -

BY A NEW ONE

Bill Haverfield who swapped writing purchase orders in Maintenance for writing treatises at Columbia Bible College, sends in copies of his school paper "The CeBeCean". We venture to congratulate Bill, whose name adorns the masthead under the title of "Assistant Publications Editor", on the marked improvement of the paper since the new A. P. E. took over.

Bill makes the following comment on his appointment to the editorial staff: "I was wondering just what I was supposed to do, not daring to ask when the first issued appeared, since then I've found out in a big way. I've done a little bit of everything on this last issue, from rewriting articles to setting type-plates over again. Now I wonder why the "Assistant" is before me."

All that we can say here, Bill, is that you "don't know nothing yet." You've acquired yourself a thankless job, but you seem to be doing right well by it.

(Another Editor)

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Paper is a giant industry. When printing and publishing - large users of paper are added - it is fourth with an annual total of more than \$4,000,000,000. This figure is exceeded only by the food, textile and transportation industries.

- - Printers Ink.

NOTICE TO FORESTS REQUESTING

ADDITIONAL COPIES OF DIXIE RANGER

Because of the necessity for conserving paper, it has been decided that the circulation of the Dixie Ranger cannot be increased at this time. It is suggested that it be kept in circulation by each recipient - the ranger to see that all of his guards receive it in turn, and so on throughout the field force.

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MORE ABOUT RANGER CLERKS

While in Texas last month a ranger, who transferred there from other forest about two years ago, answered my question about his need for a clerk in about these words:

"I don't need any clerk here because the supervisor's office doesn't make itself so much work as they do over in ----".

Now this ranger is no star when it comes to handling office work, but doesn't do so badly at it and perhaps has isolated the reason responsible for the demand for ranger clerks in so many quarters.

- - J. F. Brooks,
Regional Office

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NAVAL STORES

According to the latest Commodity Credit Corporation report, only 7,500 barrels of turpentine (50 gallons each) were reported on hand as of November 15; but this amount was covered by orders from distributors. In reality the CCC has exhausted its supply of turpentine. Two years ago, on August 31, 1939, the CCC had on hand 191,000 barrels of turpentine.

The Department of Agriculture through the State Committees for National Defense has set up quotas for certain products to be produced in 1942. Among these items, gum turpentine is included. The gum turpentine quota of 400,000 units is proportioned by States as follows:

South Carolina	7,500	units
Georgia	242,000	"
Florida	107,400	"
Alabama	30,000	"
Mississippi	10,000	"
Louisiana	2,100	"

A unit of naval stores consists of one barrel of turpentine (50 gallons) and 3-1/3 barrels of rosin (500 pounds gross each).

- - Joseph Yencso
Regional Office

ROAN MOUNTAIN ACQUIRED
BY FOREST SERVICE

Negotiations have been completed for the transfer of 2,800 acres of land on Roan Mountain in Tennessee and North Carolina to the Forest Service, for development as a recreation area. 1,800 acres lie in North Carolina, and will become a part of Pisgah National Forest. The remaining 1,000 acres in Tennessee will be included in the Cherokee National Forest. The Roan Mountain area has one of the finest stands of rhododendron in the country.

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CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK

Ranger Woody's grandson, 7-year old Ned White, is a chip off the old block, with many of the mannerisms and expressions of his grandfather. One day he was watching Forester Bryce Ledford, Jr. drive in from a scaling job. The truck Ledford was driving had seen its best days, and when it stopped with a rattle and roar Ned observed, "Bryce, your truck is just like my pants." To Ledford's query, "How is that?" Ned responded, "Two or three wears 'em out before we get 'em."

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L I B R A R Y L I N E S

IMPORTANT: Mailing of books and pamphlets is restricted during the period December 10-26.

ADMINISTRATION: FOUR LECTURES BY OUTSTANDING LEADERS IN THE MANAGEMENT FIELD, DELIVERED IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL, U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, FEB. 2-23, 1939. Graduate school (cl1939) 46 p., processed. 50¢

ELEMENTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT by William Toy. Region 9, U. S. Forest Service, Milwaukee, 1940. 63 p., processed. Partial contents: The planning function; the organizing function; the command, coordination, and control functions.

THE COTTON-AND-TOBACCO SOUTH. USDA. MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION 474, 20 p., illus. 1941. Photographs of good and bad agricultural practices, with printed commentary stressing the soil conservation messages.

SELF-AIDS IN THE ESSENTIALS OF GRAMMATICAL USAGE by L. J. O'Rouke. Educational and personnel pub. co., 3506 Patterson st., n.w., Washington, D. C. (cl1935, 1937) 200 p. \$1.00. Rules of grammar are presented in handy form, p. 123-183.

WAR REVIVES AN OLD INDUSTRY: APPALACHIAN FORESTS ARE MEETING THE SHORTAGE OF IMPORTED BRIER WOOD FOR AMERICAN PIPE SMOKERS by L. I. Barrett. AMERICAN FORESTS, Nov. 1941, p. 503-506, 543, illus. Use of laurel and rhododendron burls.

VITAL SPEECHES AS A TEACHING DEVICE by Lionel Crocker. 1941. 8 p. (Available free upon request to the author at 33 West 42nd st., New York). Crocker reprints President Roosevelt's speech of March 15, 1941. "Aid to the democracies," and analyzes it to show some of the secrets of the President's appeal as a public speaker. Of much use to speakers and writers of speeches.

Notice: If you have seen the book listed below, kindly notify the Regional Library immediately. Thank you!

PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN RELATIONS FOR EXECUTIVES, by J. L. Rosenstein. McGraw-Hill, 1936. 284 pages.

- - - Rachel Lane
Librarian - Regional Office.

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HUNTS - EAST AND WEST
IN THE REGION

The Ozark reports the following on its deer hunt:

"During the week's open season in November, three thousand hunters were checked into an area of approximately fifty thousand acres on the Sylamore District and an additional one thousand hunters roamed the woods in search of prize trophies on other parts of the Forest.

"The Ozark hunt is confined to land outside the Game Refuges and no fees are charged other than the necessary state license assessments, yet all the headaches of a paid hunt are experienced as I am sure could be verified by Ranger Ames.

"The check-in consists of registering all individuals, recording their hunting licenses, car license and camp locations and issuing them a free hunting permit (whether they want it or not) and at the same time giving them a fire prevention and wildlife conservation talk. The Forest Service was most ably assisted in this work and the patrol work by the state wardens. Over one hundred deer were killed on the forest during the week, however, the bag was not quite up to expectations because of the late fall, and dense understory caused by the leaves that had not yet fallen."

The Pisgah's report has not yet been received, but according to newspaper figures, 401 deer and 8 bears were killed in the hunt, which ended on November 29. The Regional Office Division of Fiscal Control reports that approximately 1500 applications were received for the Pisgah hunt this year, and that at least 1450 applicants took part in the hunt.

On the Chattahoochee, 32 archers (including 4 women) from ten states hunted in the Blue Ridge Wildlife Management area. They bagged 6 wild hogs, but no bucks. They were followed by about 200 riflemen, who killed 21 bucks.

Hunts are also getting under way on the Black Warrior and Ocala.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Transfer has been effected for Mrs. Lillian M. Cooksey from the Soil Conservation Service to the Ozark, where she is assigned as Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the Supervisor's office.

Miss Helen Jacqueline Miles has been probationally appointed as Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the Ouachita Supervisor's office.

Transfer has been effected for Miss Clyde Smith from the Washington Office to the Regional Division of Fiscal Control, where she is assigned as Senior Bookkeeping Machine Operator.

Wilbur L. Phillips of the Regional Division of Fiscal Control has tendered his resignation to accept other employment.

Ole H. Lexau of the Regional Division of Engineering has resigned to accept another position.

Andrew L. Litchfield, Equipment Operator on the South Carolina, has resigned to enter private employment.

Probationary appointment has been effected for Harold D. Bellinger as Junior Clerk-Typist in the Alabama Supervisor's office.

Mrs. Martha S. Ellis of the Regional Division of State and Private Forestry has tendered her resignation to accept an appointment in the War Department.

Senior Engineering Aide John Paul Check of the Ozark has resigned to accept other employment.

THE LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher has returned from a trip to Washington.

Mr. Raymond G. Bell of the Caribbean National Forest is on detail in the Regional Fiscal Agent's office.

Hints to Christmas Shoppers! The Forest Service Credit Union advises that it has on hand funds for loan to the Regional Office personnel.

Messrs. Reed H. Jensen and L. E. Brading of the Washington Office, are making an audit of Region 8, Division of Fiscal Control.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Schlatter announce the birth of a daughter, Bertha Ann, who arrived on November 15. Congratulations to the proud parents and all good wishes to Bertha Ann.

A most cordial welcome is extended to Dan P. Chisholm of Amarillo, Texas, who has reported as Regional Law Officer, succeeding E. F. Mynatt.

Supervisor Hadley arrived in Atlanta December 4 for a few days, before going to Washington on some Insular Government business. He will attend the Society of American Foresters' meeting at Jacksonville and return to Puerto Rico from there.

Recent Office visitors were:

Frate Bull and Paul H. Russell, FSA. Montgomery, Ala.
H. G. Meginnis, SFES, New Orleans, La.
Brooks Toler, State Forester, Montgomery, Ala.
H. C. Carruth, Extension Forester, Athens, Ga.
E. N. Cooper, Project Forester, Pearson, Ga.
L. C. Hart, District Forester, Macon, Ga.
G. K. Stephenson, Forester, Federal Land Bank, New Orleans, La.

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STOLEN CHRISTMAS TREES

By Bob Adams

(Reprinted from AMERICAN FORESTS)

Alas, that every year we see
A lot of gents like you and me
Go out and swipe a Christmas tree.
Folks ramble out and drag them in
Who, other times, would think it sin
To steal a penny or a pin.
In older days upon the farm
To slash a tree was thought no harm
But trees are property today
As much as hens or hogs or hay.

Who chops the same lacks Christmas spirit,
He is a thief or dog-gone near it.
Old Mother Pine she shakes her head,
Windsown they sprout on moor and mead.
She sees the sturdy pinelets grow,
She hears them rustle to and fro,
When they are cut she takes it calm.
She is a truly Spartan ma'am.
She's glad to have them serve the nation
And help the Christmas celebration.

But Mother Pine is scandalized
To see her children vandalized.
In winter winds she sighs and grieves,
Remarking as she views the thicves,
"I never raised my child to be
Somebody's stolen Christmas tree".
This season comes but once a year
And when it comes it brings good cheer;
But stealing a tree for your Christmas freight
Is a hell of a way to celebrate.

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